

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 12951 01 OF 02 142133Z
ACTION EUR-12

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P R 141705Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0267
USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USBERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 12951

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PGOV, BQG, MILI
SUBJECT: FRG REPLY TO NORWEGIANS ON ACCREDITATION
OF GDR MILITARY ATTACHES

1. AT THE JULY 5 BONN GROUP MEETING, THE FRG REP
(VON RICHTHOFEN) SAID THAT THE NORWEGIAN EMBASSY IN
BONN HAD ASKED THE FOREIGN OFFICE ABOUT THE FRG
POLICY ON THE ACCREDITATION OF GDR MILITARY ATTACHES
IN NATO CAPITALS. HE SAID THE NORWEGIANS MADE THE
INQUIRY BECAUSE THEY WERE UNDERTAKING A GENERAL STUDY
OF SUCH QUESTIONS, NOT BECAUSE THEY HAD BEEN APPROACHED

BY THE GDR. HE SAID THE FOREIGN OFFICE HAD PREPARED
A REPLY TO THE NORWEGIANS, BUT WANTED THE ALLIES TO
EXAMINE IT BEFORE IT WAS DELIVERED.

2. VON RICHTHOFEN DISTRIBUTED THE FOLLOWING TEXT
AS THE REPLY THE FRG PROPOSED TO MAKE TO THE
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PAGE 02 BONN 12951 01 OF 02 142133Z

NORWEGIANS.

BEGIN TEXT. SUBJECT: ACCREDITATION OF MILITARY
ATTACHES FROM WARSAW PACT STATES: GDR

THE NORWEGIAN EMBASSY CAN BE INFORMED ORALLY OF
THE FOLLOWING:

A. THE QUESTION OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF GDR MILITARY ATTACHES IN NATO STATES AND VICE VERSA WAS THE OBJECT OF DETAILED CONSULTATIONS IN THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE OF NATO ON NOVEMBER 7, 1974 IN BRUSSELS.

THE POSITION OF THE THREE POWERS AND OF THE FEDERAL

GOVERNMENT ON THIS QUESTION HAS NOT CHANGED SINCE. THE THREE POWERS WILL NOT EXCHANGE MILITARY ATTACHES WITH THE GDR ON ACCOUNT OF THE DEMILITARIZED STATUS OF GREATER BERLIN. THE THREE POWERS AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY ALSO CONSIDER IT DESIRABLE THAT THE OTHER ALLIANCE PARTNERS AVOID AN EXCHANGE OF MILITARY ATTACHES WITH THE GDR. INsofar AS THE GDR PRESSES FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF A MILITARY ATTACHE IN THE CAPITAL OF AN ALLIANCE PARTNER, IT AT LEAST SHOULD AVOID SENDING A MILITARY ATTACHE IN EXCHANGE TO BERLIN (EAST). IN THIS CONNECTION, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ALSO REQUESTS THAT CARE BE TAKEN THAT ANY GDR MILITARY ATTACHE (TO OSLO) NOT HAVE A HIGHER RANK THAN THAT OF THE FRG MILITARY ATTACHE ACCREDITED IN THAT CAPITAL.

B. IT IS RECOMMENDED TO THE NORWEGIAN SIDE THAT, IF NECESSARY, THE MATTER BE RAISED AGAIN IN THE POLITICAL CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BONN 12951 01 OF 02 142133Z

COMMITTEE OF NATO.

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 01 BONN 12951 02 OF 02 142127Z
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 12951

C. IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES AFTER THE CSCE FINAL ACT, THE POSSIBILITY HAS BEEN DISCUSSED IN NATO THAT MILITARY ATTACHES COULD BE INVITED TO THIRD COUNTRIES AS MANEUVER OBSERVERS. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ATTACHES IMPORTANCE TO THE MAINTENANCE OF THE PRESENT INVITATION PROCEDURE, ACCORDING TO WHICH ONLY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MISSIONS IN BONN ARE INVITED, IN ORDER TO EXCLUDE THE POSSIBILITY THAT A MILITARY ATTACHE OF THE GDR SHOULD BE INVITED TO THIRD COUNTRY AS A MANEUVER OBSERVER. END TEXT

3. COMMENT: WE WERE UNABLE TO LOCATE RECORDS IN OUR FILES OF THE 1974 NATO DISCUSSIONS MENTIONED IN THE PROPOSED REPLY. WE NOTE THAT ITALY AND BELGIUM HAVE ACCREDITED GDR MILITARY ATTACHES IN CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BONN 12951 02 OF 02 142127Z

THEIR CAPITALS, BUT HAVE NOT THEMSELVES SENT ATTACHES TO EAST BERLIN.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: USNATO'S VIEWS AND

DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE ON THE FRG REPLY AS CONTAINED IN PARA 2. STOESSEL

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